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April 2015

Texas Ranger Hall of Fame Newsletter

Sponsored by the City of Waco

Official Historical Center for Texas Rangers

Home of Texas Ranger Bicentennial 2023

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Military Appreciation Weekend



During Memorial weekend, the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum honors our nation's heroes with Military Appreciation Weekend on Saturday, May 23rd through Monday, May 25th.

Active duty personnel, retirees

Ram Texas Ranger Concept Truck



RAM

March 25, 2015, Dallas - The Ram Truck brand today unveiled a one-of-a-kind Texas Ranger concept truck to commemorate and promote the brand's support of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum and Texas Ranger heritage.

Introduced by Ram Truck Brand President and CEO Bob Hegbloom at the 2015 Dallas Auto Show, the Ram Texas Ranger concept truck brings the legendary spirit of the Rangers to the road.



Left to Right: Hank Whitman, retired Chief of the Rangers and Chair of TRHFM Advisory Board; Barry Caver, retired Captain of the Rangers and

and veterans will receive free admission to the Museum while their family will receive discounted admissions (with valid id or documentation - medals, service records, photographs are accepted).

Summer Camp



Learn what it takes to be a Texas Ranger at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum! Texas Ranger Summer Camp is Friday, June 26th from 8am to 4pm.

In the morning, campers will have the chance to step into the boots of a 19th-century Texas Ranger and learn about the skills critical to survival on the frontier. In the afternoon, the children will have an opportunity to learn about the duties of the modern Texas Rangers, including their work as criminal investigators. Campers may even get to meet a real Texas Ranger!

Camp registration is open to children entering third, fourth and fifth grade. Scouting groups are welcome based on availability. The cost is \$25 per camper, and the deadline to register is Friday, June 19th.

In The Press



The Texas Ranger Museum was among the various Waco attractions featured in

member of TRHFM Advisory Board; Texas Ranger Reuben Mankin, Company "B".

"The Ram team developed this commemorative concept truck in order to further highlight our relationship with the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum," said Bob Hegbloom, President and CEO - Ram Truck, FCA US LLC. "Although Rangers are well-known horsemen, today Texans drive more pickups than drivers in any other state in the country."

Both inside and out, the Ram Texas Ranger edition celebrates the Rangers and their heritage.



Photographs courtesy Ram. Top: Edition inlay on dash panel. Middle: Cinco Peso coin inlay on doors. Bottom: Leather seats feature stylized badge and Western elements.

Please [click here](#) to read more about the finishes on the Ram Texas Ranger concept truck and Ram's support of the upcoming

"Exploring Waco on Two Wheels" by Robin Soslow for My San Antonio Express-News.

Please [click here](#) to read the article.

Captain Snyder



The First Annual Texas Ranger Classic Sporting Clay Tournament is scheduled for May 29th at the National Shooting Complex in San Antonio. The Texas Ranger Classic is a sporting clay tournament brought to you by the Texas Ranger Association Foundation.

Please [click here](#) for more information.

Captain Snyder



Congratulations to Captain Todd Snyder. Captain Snyder has just been promoted to Captain. He was formerly a Lieutenant in Company "C".

Ranger Bess



Texas Ranger Brandon Bess' presentation to the members of the Cleveland Lions Club on

Texas Ranger Bicentennial. Please [click here](#) to see more photographs of the Ram Texas Ranger concept truck. Please [click here](#) to watch a video on the making of the Ram Texas Ranger concept truck.

We need your support for this concept truck to be considered for production. If you are a fan, please contact your local Ram dealer and request the truck be put into production. Thank you!

Discovering the Legend: Ranger Burson



Discovering the Legend episode 19 features a Question and Answer session with Texas Ranger Jake Burson, Company "F." The session was held at the Museum during Spring Break Round Up. Audience members asked Ranger Burson questions about modern Ranger duties, his career in DPS and his most interesting case.

Presented by The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and produced by the Waco City Cable Channel (WCCC-TV), this series takes a look at some interesting stories covering more than two centuries of law enforcement by the revered members of the Texas Rangers. Discovering the Legend can be seen on 56 city and college cable stations across Texas.



Ranger Burson presenting at Spring Break Round Up.

Please [click here](#) to watch Ranger Burson's Question and Answer session online.

Oral History: Patrick Peña

March 24th was featured in "Texas Ranger Discusses Larger-than-life Career" by Stephanie Buckner in the Cleveland Advocate.

Please [click here](#) to read the article.

Ranger Autrey



We are saddened to report that retired Ranger Norman Wesley Autrey, 85, passed away on March 26th. Norman was a Highway Patrolman in Taylor, TX and a Ranger in Company "E" in Brownwood.

DPS Director Dudley Thomas



Texas DPS noted the passing of former Director Dudley Thomas on March 3rd. DPS Director Steve McCraw stated:

"On behalf of the entire department, our hearts and prayers go out to the Thomas family for their tremendous loss. Col. Dudley Thomas proudly served the department for four decades, ultimately being named the agency's director. We are forever grateful for his outstanding leadership and commitment to protecting and serving



The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum has over 50 oral history interviews of Texas Rangers. The oral history project began in 1997. The newest edition is an interview of Texas Ranger Patrick Peña, Company "F." It is the first oral history of an active duty Texas Ranger.

Ranger Peña was interviewed by Adam Ortiz, student at Baylor University Department of Journalism, Public Relations and New Media, and Christine Rothenbush, Marketing and Development Coordinator at TRHFM. Mr. Ortiz requested the interview to gather information for a joint TRHFM-Baylor University project in which students are creating a media packet for the upcoming Texas Ranger Bicentennial in 2023 to be used by the TRHFM and other agencies hosting pre-approved Bicentennial celebrations, symposiums and other events.

Please [click here](#) to read his interview.

Recap: Spring Break Round Up

On Saturday, March 14th the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum in partnership with Texas Top Guns held its annual Spring Break Round Up. Texas Ranger Jake Burson hosted a Question and Answer session. Texas Top Guns set up frontier tents and displayed equipment used in frontier living. In addition, visitors were able to taste biscuits cooked over coals in cast iron pots. Donna Arispe, from Homestead Heritage in Elm Mott, Texas, demonstrated how to spin cotton into thread.



Texans."

Thomas served as DPS' ninth director from 1996 to 2000.

(Information courtesy Texas DPS Newsroom.)

Education Center



The following groups utilized the Education Center for programs in March:

- NAACP
- Waco Foundation
- Association of Fundraising Professionals
- International Society of Arboriculture
- Waco ISD

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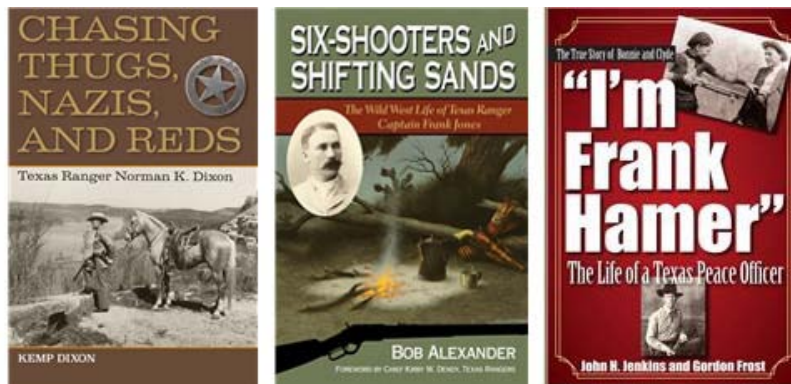
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Gift Shop Feature

The Texas Ranger Museum Gift Shop offers a wide array of books on Texas Ranger history. In April, the gift shop will receive two new publications: *Chasing Thugs, Nazis, and Reds* by Kemp Dixon and *Six-Shooters and Shifting Sands* by Bob Alexander. In May, the book *"I'm Frank Hamer": The Life of a Texas Peace Officer* by John H. Jenkins and H. Gordon Frost will be available. It is a reprint that has been unavailable for years.



About Chasing Thugs

Texas Ranger Norman Dixon broke up the largest oil field theft ring in Texas history, worked to solve the most infamous cold case in Texas history, sought the Phantom Killer, investigated a near-mutiny by cadets and veterans on the campus of Texas A&M, rushed to a rural county to head off a lynching, and kept watch over Texas during World War II. During the final years of his career, which coincided with the McCarthy era in the 1950s, he was the chief of internal security, charged with protecting Texans from the Red Menace. Using Ranger Dixon's meticulously-kept diary entries, Kemp Dixon now tells his father's compelling story.

About Six-Shooters

At an early age Frank Jones, a native Texan, would become a Frontier Battalion era Ranger. His enlistment with the Rangers coincided with their transition from Indian fighters to lawmen. Frank Jones's law enforcing life was anything but boring. Not only would he find himself dodging bullets and returning fire, but those Rangers under his supervision would also experience gunplay. Of all the Texas Ranger companies, Company "D" contributed the highest number of on-duty deaths within Texas Ranger ranks.

About "I'm Frank Hamer"

Best known as the Texas Ranger captain who tracked down and killed Bonnie and Clyde, Frank Hamer was designated by Walter Prescott Webb as "one of the three most fearless men in Western history." This reprint of the 1968 edition gives the complete details of the Barrow-Parker rampage and is the only authentic account of the events leading to their deaths. With more than one hundred pages of illustrations, "I'm Frank Hamer" tells the amazing story of one of the greatest Texas Rangers of all time.

To purchase these books, please call toll free (877) 750-8631 or email thestore@texasranger.org. Sales from the Gift Shop benefit the preservation and education activities of the Museum.

(Book descriptions courtesy Texas A&M University Press.)

Save
\$2.00

Save \$1.00 off regular adult admission for up to two adults. Coupon not valid on discounted senior or military admission. No cash value.

The museum is open 9am to 5pm with the last guest admitted at 4:30pm. The museum is located off I-35 and University Parks Drive in Waco, Texas.

For more information, call (254) 750-8631 or visit www.texasranger.org.

Offer Expires: May 31, 2015

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